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3012 1.

A flavor or fragrance composition comprising at least one

compound of formula I

$$R^2$$
 $R^2$ 
 $R^3$ 
 $R^4$ 

or a precursor thereof, wherein R1 represents a branched or unbranched alkyl, alkenyl or alkadienyl group containing 1 to 8 carbon atoms and R2 represents a methyl or ethyl group.

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- The composition of claim 1 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, n-hexyl, (Z)-2-hexenyl, (E)-3-hexenyl, (E)-2-hexenyl, (Z)-3-hexenyl and n-octyl.
- 3. The composition of claim 1 wherein at least one compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid ethyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid n-hexyl ester, (R)-3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid (Z)-3-hexenyl ester, 3-mercaptopentanoic acid ethyl ester and precursors thereof.
- 4. The composition of claim 3 wherein at least one compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester and 3-mercaptobutanoic acid ethyl ester.
- 5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the total amount of carbon atoms of at least one compound of formula I is at least 8.

- 6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the precursor is formed by reaction of acyl chloride with the compound of formula 1.
- 7. The composition of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the compound of formula 1 or of the precursor thereof is from 0.001% to 30%.
- 8. The composition of claim 1 wherein the concentration of the compound of formula 1 or of the precursor thereof is from 0.001% to 10%.

5mg 9.

A method of adding a flavor or fragrance to a product wherein

at least one compound of formula 1

or a precursor thereof, wherein R1 represents a branched or unbranched alkyl, alkenyl or alkadienyl group containing 1 to 8 carbon atoms and R2 represents a methyl or an ethyl group, is added to the product.

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- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the product is selected from the group consisting of a food, a beverage, a healthcare product, a household product, and combinations thereof.
- The method of claim 9 wherein R1 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl, n-butyl, iso-butyl, tert-butyl, n-hexyl, (Z)-2-hexenyl, (E)-3-hexenyl, (E)-2-hexenyl, (Z)-3-hexenyl and n-octyl.
- 12. The method of claim 9 wherein at least one compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid ethyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid n-hexyl ester, (R)-3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester, 3-mercaptobutanoic acid (Z)-3-hexenyl ester, 3-mercaptopentanoic acid ethyl ester, and precursors thereof.
- 13. The method of claim 9 wherein at least one compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-mercaptobutanoic acid methyl ester and 3-mercaptobutanoic acid ethyl ester.

- 14. The method of claim 9 wherein the precursor is formed by reaction of acyl chloride with the compound of formula 1.
- The method of claim 9 wherein the compound(s) of formula I or the precursor(s) thereof is/are present in an amount of 0.001 mg/kg to 500 mg/kg of said product.
- 16. The method of claim 9 wherein the compound(s) of formula I or the precursor(s) thereof is/are present in an amount of 0.01 mg/kg to 50 mg/kg of said product.